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I have urged the Lloyd Steamship Company to supply a better ventilating system for the hospitals of the steamers *Barkum* and *Helgoland*. They assure me it will be attended to on their return voyage from America. The last weekly health report shows 7 cases of enteric fever, 2 of scarlet fever, and 1 case of diphtheria.

Respectfully, JOSEPH B. GREENE,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspection of disinfecting station at Ruhleben.

BREMEN, GERMANY, *June 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that in accordance with authority granted in Bureau's letter of May 19 (F. L. G., P. M. C., R. M. W.), I inspected the Ruhleben disinfecting station on June 25, 1900. The delay in my going was due to my inability to find a time when my presence was not required at this station.

Ruhleben is near Spandau, one-half hour from Berlin. The station is owned and managed conjointly by the Lloyd Steamship Company, the Hamburg-American Company, the White Star Line, the American Line, and the Holland-American Line. All steerage passengers, except German, are brought to this station and examined by the medical officer in charge. All cases of favus and trachoma are returned. Other diseases, if curable, are sent to the hospital for treatment. The baggage of all Russian emigrants which has been smuggled over the border, and thus avoided the frontier central stations, is disinfected at Ruhleben. Also other baggage, which for any reason is considered infected, even if it has been previously treated at the frontier central stations, is disinfected at this station.

The disinfecting plant, though small, seems to be complete; as the amount of work done there is not large, averaging only from 20 to 30 passengers daily, the facilities are probably ample for the purpose. There are 2 small chambers, so situated in the partition separating 2 rooms, that the infected baggage is placed in one end of the chamber and withdrawn into a clean room after disinfection. The air is first exhausted till the pressure is considerably reduced, and then the steam is turned on and the pressure raised till 105° C. is attained. This is continued for thirty minutes. Then the steam is exhausted and air admitted till the drying is complete. I was informed that the entire process consumes about one hour.

The facilities for treating the emigrants themselves are also good. There are 2 sets of bathing rooms, 1 for men and the other for women. The emigrants are first taken to a dressing room, where all clothing is removed and placed in the disinfecting chamber. Then they are conducted into another room, where a number of shower baths are provided. From there they are taken to another room and provided with sterilized blankets till the clothing is removed from the chamber.

It was through the courtesy of the officials of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company that your representative was permitted to inspect the station at Ruhleben. To Captain Montanus and Captain Arnold I am especially indebted for courtesies.

Respectfully, JOSEPH B. GREENE,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report from Hamburg.

HAMBURG, *July 2, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report for the week ended June 30:

There were 3 embarkations of steerage passengers during the week, all on vessels of the Hamburg-American Line. The steamship *Pennsylvania* sailed June 24, carrying 1,065; the steamship *Belgravia*, June 27, carrying 321, and the express steamer *Columbia*, June 28, carrying 295. It will be seen that the numbers are somewhat decreased compared with a few weeks ago. Bills of health were issued to 15 vessels during the week, of which 11 carried cargo. Notification was given to the quarantine officer of the port of New York of a lot of personal effects forwarded through from Port Said by the American Express Company and sent from Hamburg to New York on the steamship *Pennsylvania*, nothing being known of their character here.

Respectfully, A. C. SMITH,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

GUATEMALA.

Report from Livingston—Fruit port.

LIVINGSTON, GUATEMALA, *July 3, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make my report for the weeks ended June 26 and July 3, 1900: The health of Livingston is not in such good standing. Malaria is prevalent among all classes, and diarrhea is attacking the infant population. There is 1 death for the two weeks, adult female, cancer of stomach. Estimated population, 800.

The following ships have been inspected: June 20, steamship *Managua*, Gundersen. Number of crew, 16; number of passengers, 3; in transit, 1 from here (baggage disinfected); cargo, green fruit, all in good sanitary condition; destination, Mobile, Ala. June 26, steamship *Breakwater*, Rivera, bound for New Orleans. Number of crew, 35; number of passengers, 8, in transit; cargo, general merchandise; all in good sanitary condition. July 3, steamship *Stillwater*, Galt, New Orleans. Number of crew, 32; number of passengers, 2, in transit; cargo, general merchandise, all in good sanitary condition. Proper certificates inclosed.

I was ill with fever June 26, hence failed to report.

Respectfully, SAMUEL HARRIS BACKUS,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

HONDURAS.

Report from Puerto Cortez—Fruit port.

PUERTO CORTEZ, HONDURAS, *July 5, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit report for week ended Thursday, July 5, 1900, and inclose list of vessels inspected and cleared during the week.

The health and sanitary conditions of the port and adjacent country